

Are All Christians Hypocrites?

1.7.12

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Remember: you do not have to do the entire study (you may not have time) – you can choose what questions you want to discuss.

1. What are some of the things that most influence people's view of Christianity?
2. What are the main areas in life in which people say Christians are hypocrites? Why these areas? Try and think of the ways people see both individual believers and the institutional church as hypocritical.

Read Matthew 23:13-15 and 23-38

3. What do you think of Jesus' words? How does it compare to how others often criticise the church?
4. What is the flip side of the hypocrisy coin? If hypocrisy is often found at the human end of the spectrum, what do we find at the God end of the spectrum?
5. *“Christianity has not been tried and found wanting - it has been found difficult and rarely tried” - G. K. Chesterton*

Do you think this is true? Why or why not?

6. How is the above quote reflected in your own life?
7. What inspires fanaticism? What are the distinguishing characteristics of a fanatical viewpoint?
8. How can we avoid becoming fanatics?

Read Matthew 7:5

9. How do we do this? Why do we need to do this?
10. What response can we give to people when they point out Christian hypocrisy?

Prayer points:

- Pray for opportunities to share with others the full truth, good and bad, of Christianity.

